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# HOLYOKE theSun

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## Easter in the city



A drive-by Easter event was held in the city last weekend to allow city youth to get some candy and other goodies and wave to the Easter bunny. The drive-by event was originally scheduled for Mar. 28, but had to be postponed due to heavy rain that day. It was made up last Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. It was held at Community Field. More photos on page 8.

*Submitted photo*

## Acting mayor to be named soon

*City will avoid holding special election*

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
*gscibelli@turley.com*

HOLYOKE – A new acting mayor could be in place within the next week if Gov. Charlie Baker acts soon.

The Massachusetts legislature has approved a multi-prong home rule petition that will pave the way for a new acting mayor to be appointed as well as to allow the next mayor of Holyoke take office immediately after being elected.

*See MAYOR, page 13*

## History in Holyoke: Good Housekeeping Magazine

**By Patricia Counter**  
*Special to The Sun*

Holyoke has always been associated with paper product. One of the natural accompaniments of producing paper was magazine publishing, including many devoted to the paper-making process itself. Among these were "A History of Paper," and "The Paper Mill Directory of the World." But how many Holyokers realize the city was also the birthplace of a very famous magazine.

Described as a magazine for homes of the world, it was published by Clark W. Bryan and Company, Publishers. It was, believe it or not, Good Housekeeping Magazine. It began appearing in the 1880s and sold for 10 cents a copy or \$2.50 a year.

An average edition contained about 30 pages and either a green or manila cover. Devoid of pictures, it resembled a manual rather than a magazine.

It may have started small, but it was crammed with articles on housekeeping, cooking, child care, medical advances and poetry.

From time to time, it would run a series on various topics. One in particular was

## GRIDIRON SLUGFEST



Carlos Cruz runs the ball up the field during an offensive slugfest between the Knights and Chicopee Comprehensive last Thursday afternoon. More photos on page 9.

*Photo by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)*

## HCC wants resident on board of trustees

**By Shelby Macri**  
*smacri@turley.com*

HOLYOKE – With a recent resignation on the Board of Trustees, Holyoke Community College faculty and staff union has asked Gov. Charlie Baker to appoint a Holyoke resident to the vacant spot.

Massachusetts Community College Council local chapter union president Laura Schlegel said it's important to have someone from Holyoke on the Board of Trustees, to ensure there's a voice for the city and the many residents who attend the college. Schlegel is a lifelong resident of Holyoke and care about the future of the school.

"I know first-hand the importance of HCC to students who are unsure of future plans and first-generation college student status," Schlegel said. "With the Holyoke schools continuing to be in receivership it is important that someone from Holyoke, familiar with the schools and the population, sit on the board to ensure the college is serving the population and needs of our community."

She explained that Baker has the power to fill the missing seat, and there is no one from Holyoke on the board that oversees HCC.

Schlegel and the union are concerned about the representation of the city and the community that HCC serves, additionally the college was founded and has been nurtured in the city for 75 years. Representation from someone who knows the city well and is familiar with the needs of the school is needed, as the surrounding communities of the 15 Massachusetts colleges are well represented on the Board of Trustees.

"Having a resident from Holyoke on the board will give better perspective to a board that doesn't live in the community," Schlegel said. "Having someone from here would do the best in serving the community and knowing what we need."

While there are many Holyoke residents who attend HCC, it's understood by the union that many different students use their services. Schlegel said before the pandemic students from more than 200 countries sought walk-in writing tutoring during the school year, also the state classified the community college as a Hispanic Serving Institution.

With Holyoke having a large Spanish speaking population, it's import-

*See HCC, page 15*

*See MAGAZINE, page 15*

# Community Foundation awards \$1.3 million in grants

**Grants target organizations supporting individuals, families impacted by COVID-19**

SPRINGFIELD — The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts (CFWM) has awarded \$1.3 million in new grants to support local programs providing eviction prevention, mental health and food insecurity assistance to those impacted by COVID-19. The grants are from the COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley, which to date has awarded \$10.2 million to 182 organizations in Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties.

More than 700 donors, including individuals, foundations, businesses and \$4.4 million from the statewide Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund, have contributed to CFWM's COVID-19 Response Fund. Donors continue to give to the fund every week. Gifts can be made online at: [www.communityfoundation.org/donate-now](http://www.communityfoundation.org/donate-now).

To date, CFWM has leveraged almost \$12 million in gifts for COVID grantmaking to nonprofits in Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties.

The church Tabernáculo de Gozo (TDG), located on Sumner Avenue in Springfield, was one of the community organizations that received a grant in the latest round. According to Pastor Henry Garcia, "These monies assisted about 90 people in Springfield and the surrounding community. TDG helped individuals with big utility bills that were behind such as electricity bills, gas bills and rents in arrears. We also assisted with COVID-19 protection needs such as hand san-

itizer, sanitizer wipes and face tissue. The Tabernáculo de Gozo church is very grateful to our sister Maria Arrias for providing the contact and to the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts."

According to Katie Zobel, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, "Our grant making continues to evolve to meet the demands placed on the social infrastructure of our region as a result of the pandemic. More people are struggling to stay in their homes as a result of the devastating consequences of COVID-19 on our economy. Food insecurity continues to plague the region and there is a marked increase in individuals and families needing behavioral health care services. This latest round is aimed at these critical areas of need."

Organizations who received the new round of COVID-19 Response grants include:

Friends Food Pantry (Springfield); Amherst Survival Center; Behavioral Health Network (Springfield); Bethany Assembly of God Food Pantry (Agawam); Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holyoke; Caring Health Center (Springfield); Catholic Charities Agency of the Diocese of Springfield;

Center for Human Development (Springfield); Clinical & Support Options (Northampton); Community Action Pioneer Valley (Greenfield); Community Health Center of Franklin County (Greenfield); Community Legal Aid; Community Survival Center (Springfield); Easthampton Community Center;

Franklin Area Survival Center (Turners Falls); Franklin County

Community Meals Program (Greenfield); Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (Turners Falls); Gandara Mental Health Center (West Springfield); Good Neighbors Food Pantry (Charlemont); Greater Springfield Senior Services; Greater Westfield Emergency Food Pantry; Health Law Advocates; Helping Hands Cupboard Food Pantry (Belchertown);

Highland-Valley Elder Services (Northampton); Hilltown Churches Food Pantry (Ashfield); Hilltown Community Health Centers (Worthington); Holyoke Health Center; Iglesia Tabernacolo de Gozo (Springfield); Jubilee Cupboard Food Pantry (Ware); LifePath (Greenfield); Lorraine's Soup Kitchen (Chicopee); MANNA Soup Kitchen (Northampton);

Massachusetts Military Support Foundation (Agawam); Mental Health Association (Springfield); NAMI Western Massachusetts (Agawam); Neighbors Helping Neighbors (South Hadley); Oasis Food Pantry (Springfield); Open Pantry Community Services (Springfield); Palmer Food Share; Rachel's Table (Springfield); Reaping the Harvest (Springfield); River Valley Counseling (Holyoke); Root Studio (Turners Falls); Safe Passage (Northampton); Seeds of Solidarity Education Center (Orange); ServiceNet (Northampton); Spring of Hope Church of God in Christ Food Pantry (Springfield);

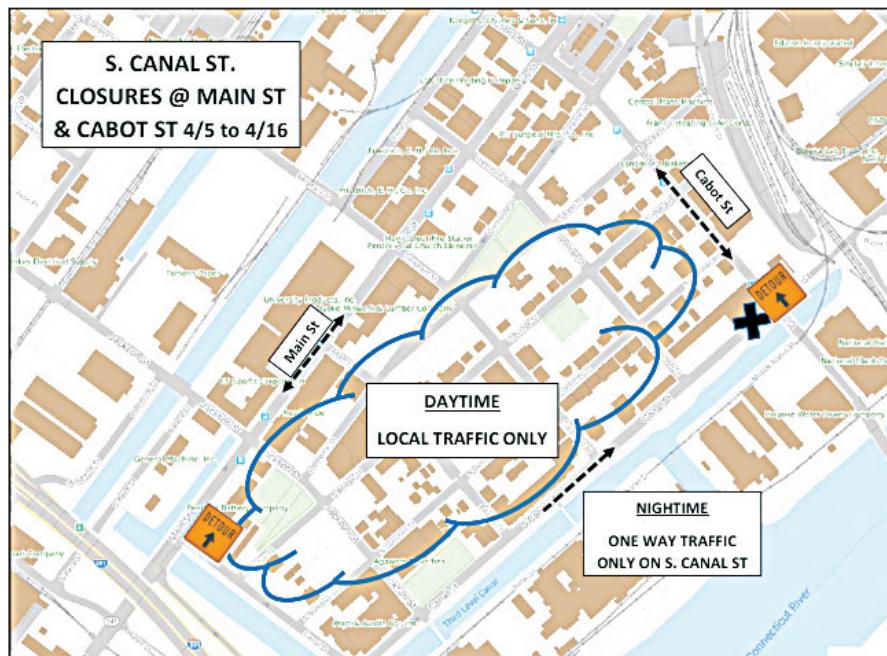
Springfield No One Leaves; Springfield Partners for Community Action; Stone Soup Café (Greenfield); The Salvation Army - Springfield Corps; The Salvation Army - Greenfield Corps;

The Salvation Army - Holyoke Corps; Valley Opportunity Council (Chicopee); Victory Temple Church of God in Christ (West Springfield); Wales Community Pantry; Way Finders (Springfield); Wendell Good Neighbors; Western Massachusetts Training Consortium (Holyoke); WestMass Elder Care (Holyoke); Womanshelter Companeros (Holyoke); YWCA of Western Massachusetts (Springfield).

The Community Foundation's response to the COVID-19 crisis has been multifaceted. In March 2020, CFWM began grantmaking to respond to the pandemic, providing emergency grants to support nonprofits serving those most vulnerable to the crisis. In October 2020, CFWM awarded \$2 million in Stabilization Grants to 70 nonprofits that had been negatively impacted by the pandemic financially. The Foundation has also provided non-monetary support through trainings for nonprofits. In response to the deep impact on local artists, CFWM's Valley Creates program has provided training and capital grants to artists.

In February, CFWM expects to award grants to organizations directly supporting immigrant populations impacted by COVID-19.

CFWM also re-launched Valley Gives in 2020, the "one-stop-giving" online platform, to connect donors with local nonprofits struggling to provide vital community programs and services—particularly during the COVID-19 crisis. Formerly a single giving day event, Valley Gives will remain "open" for 2021 and will give nonprofits a needed fundraising boost.



A part of South Canal Street will be closed to thru-traffic until the end of next week.  
Submitted photo

## City announces road closure

HOLYOKE — Effective Monday, April 5 through Friday, April 16, South Canal St from Main Street to Cabot St will be closed to thru-traffic. Local traffic only will be allowed. At nighttime South Canal Street will be reopened to eastbound traffic and westbound traffic will be detoured at Cabot St to Main St as shown on the attached figure. This shutdown/detour is needed to allow Ludlow Construction to continue installing new sewer piping in South Canal St.

This much-needed project is being completed by Ludlow Construction as part of the City's ongoing Jackson Street Area Sewer Separation Project. This \$10 million EPA mandated project involves the separation of storm drains and sewer lines through the South Holyoke area. These improvements will extend the life of the City's utilities in this area and reduce the discharge of combined sewage to the Connecticut River during significant rainfall events.

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## HCC Foundation scholarship deadline April 16

HOLYOKE — The deadline to apply for a Holyoke Community College Foundation scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year is Friday, April 16.

More than \$245,000 in awards is available for incoming, continuing and transferring HCC students through more than 150 different scholarships.

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships, which are awarded through the HCC Foundation, HCC's nonprofit fundraising corporation.

"Now more than ever, as more students and families face financial insecurity due to COVID-19, scholarships are essential to helping students succeed," said Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of Institutional Advancement and executive

director of the HCC Foundation. "Amid this challenging year, our donors have responded with extraordinary generosity, and we are so grateful for their continued belief in HCC students and our mission."

Applicants only need to fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

For the 2020-2021 academic year, the HCC Foundation awarded scholarships to more than 200 students.

## Sbarro now open at Holyoke Mall

HOLYOKE — Bill Rogalski, General Manager for Holyoke Mall, is pleased to announce that Sbarro, the leading quick service restaurant brand serving pizza by the slice, has reopened in Café Square.

Since 1956, Sbarro has been best known for its Original XL New-York-style pizza made with fresh, hand-stretched dough, San Marzano-style tomato sauce and hand-shredded 100% Whole Milk Mozzarella, as well as other authentic Italian favorites such as Pasta and Stromboli. More than 60 years later, a commitment to authentic, fresh Italian fare and treating guests like family remains Sbarro's foundation. Sbarro favorites will now be available for dine-in, pick-up and delivery through DoorDash, GrubHub, UberEats, and

more!

"We are excited to have reopened the Sbarro at Holyoke Mall," said Sbarro Franchisee, Monir Saji. "Since our first franchised Sbarro restaurant opening in Massachusetts in 1998, we have been able to provide customers Italian specialty foods made with quality ingredients at a reasonable price and served quickly. Holyoke customers have shown they embraced not only the taste of the food but the convenience of pizza by the slice."

Sbarro currently operates more than 600 stores in 25 countries. For free slices and more great offers, sign up for their Slice Society emails at [sbarro.com](http://sbarro.com).

All visitors to Holyoke Mall are reminded to wear a mask and follow our Healthy Shopper Guidelines.

Read The Sun online at [www.sun.turley.com](http://www.sun.turley.com)

# Holyoke Public Library adds new services

HOLYOKE – In fulfilling the library's mission to provide access to information and educational resources, The Holyoke Public Library has added new library services:

**Internet to-go, Online Tutors, and MCAS. Oh, my!** Wi-Fi Hotspot Lending Program to assist patrons in our community needing Internet access for a limited time. The intention of the Hotspot Lending Program is to provide Internet access for:

Students to use for help with remote learning, schoolwork and projects.

Patrons to search and apply for jobs, housing, and other assistance.

Employees to travel with reliable internet access to meetings and presen-

tations.

Patrons to have access to the library's digital resources such as our databases, eBooks, online courses, and other electronic resources from the comfort of their home.

The program is not intended to provide a subsidy of continual Internet access for any one household. To borrow a hotspot kit, patrons must be 18 years of age or older and have a Holyoke Public Library card (in good standing -- i.e. library card is not blocked due to unpaid fines or lost material). The loan period for the hotspot kits are three (3) days or 14 days with no grace period.

Please contact the library for more information.

## Brainfuse HelpNow/JobNow/

**VetNow** connects people who want to learn with experts who love to teach. It is an online resource with live tutors where patrons access real-time assistance through the intuitive Brainfuse online classroom. Brainfuse tutors are trained to not provide answers, but to help users master a problem's underlying academic concepts.

- helps veterans and their families understand and apply for the benefits they are eligible for from local, state, or federal programs. From housing and health care to education, mental health, and more, VetNow navigators are ready to help.

- is a comprehensive supplemental study program for patrons in elementary and middle schools. It provides MCAS aligned assessments and online workbooks with hundreds of practice questions for Math and English Language Arts for students in grades 3-8. Students can conveniently access this program from anywhere using a personal computer, android phone, iPhone or a tablet computer with internet access.

- offers tutoring and homework help services in Spanish for all subjects offered in English.

- provides live help in job hunting and bridges the divide by connecting users with experienced career coaches and vast resources to assist them during all stages of their job search.

## HCC spring play 'In These Times' inspired by pandemic

HOLYOKE – Most theatrical productions begin with a script.

"In These Times" began with a concept: ask students at Holyoke Community College to write first-person accounts of their lives during the COVID-19 pandemic; audition student- and alumni-actors to perform those stories; and complement the monologues with music and art contributed by other members of the HCC community.

"It's interesting putting something like this together," said HCC theater professor Patricia Sandoval, the show's director. "You don't know what you're going to get."

What she got and how it all fit together she calls a "brilliant collage."

"This is going to be a really unique production," said Sandoval, "because we are incorporating so many art forms. It's a really wonderful showcase of what students have done throughout the pandemic. All of the writing and art is original and some of the music. All of it was inspired by these times, which is where the title comes from."

Presented by the HCC Theater, Music and Visual Art departments, "In These

Times" opens on Thursday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. The virtual show will be live-streamed on YouTube and performed again on Friday, April 16, and Saturday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on April 17. The Friday night show will be ASL-interpreted.

Performances are free and open to all. The show channel can be accessed through [hcc.edu/times-show](http://hcc.edu/times-show)

The shows will not be recorded for later viewing.

"This will be live," said Sandoval. "It's really meant to be experienced in real time, with a real audience, even though the audience is watching remotely."

The cast includes 18 student- and alumni-actors performing 40 different monologues that run one to four minutes apiece during the 90-minute show. Each actor will perform from their homes in front of their computers, with the video segments stitched together remotely in real time by streaming coach and HCC theater alumnus Corey Missildine, who performed the same role during HCC's fall 2020 production, an original, live-streamed play called "Fatal Fisticuffs."

"What's beautiful about these mono-

logues is that they represent the diversity of the college, whatever that can be defined as," Sandoval said. "Age, race, ethnicity – we've got everything represented in this production because that's what HCC is."

Eight student and alumni musicians pre-recorded performances for the show. That includes three original compositions: "Covid Suite," a multimedia, electronic piece by student Jim Gipe; "Nero (Live in the Time of Corona)," by student Elena Ciampa (piano and vocals) and "When," by HCC alumna Luci Mino '18 (ukulele and vocals).

"The other musical performances aren't originals, and aren't necessarily related to the theme of the show," said Elissa Brill Paskin, chair of the HCC Music Department, "but they are in terms of how the performances were put together. Just the fact that people are performing alone, in their homes instead of with others on a stage and often accompanying or backing up themselves, really speaks to the way we are all finding ways to make music during these times."

Approximately 45 students and alumni contributed artwork that will be used to

bind each of the monologues together on screen.

"The artwork is at times a direct response to specific moments or events of this past year," said Felice Caivano, chair of the HCC Visual Art Department. "For example, alumna Isabella Dellolio's photographs document friends wearing masks. Alumni David Czupryna, Samary Ramos, and Jamie Capps, among many student artists, present poetic interpretations of the times we have been living through while others created work abstract in nature providing an image of beauty that we can all use right now. This collaborative project has the potential to give the viewer pause to contemplate these times at many levels."

All the script submissions came from student work assigned last fall by professors in their HCC classes.

"The writing has exposed all the issues that are relevant across the globe," said Sandoval. "Mental health. Loneliness. Isolation. Remote learning. Fear. But the writing also shows HCC students as being resilient, hopeful, optimistic, and self-reliant. That all comes through, and it's beautiful."

## Schools inching toward full return

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Schools are very excited to welcome students back to five full days of in-person learning in the coming weeks. It's been over a year since the schools have been able to open our doors at this capacity, and they cannot wait. The schools are asking parents to mark their calendars for the following dates when students will be returning to five full days of in-person learning:

- April 5th for students in grades PreK-5,
- April 26th for Middle school students (grades 6-8),
- A date for high school students has not been determined - guidance will be released by DESE some time this month and we will update you

promptly. We will, however, continue to plan for either 5 days in person or a hybrid model so that we are ready to work within DESE guidance.

The only learning models HPS will offer after these dates will be full in-person learning 5 days/week or full remote learning 5 days/week.

HPS will continue to run the school day hours that were put in place on January 19t.\* The only change will be that Wednesdays will run the same school hours as Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday. School hours for all schools are posted to their school web pages.

\*The only exception will be that the Veritas schedule will change to: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri: 7:50 AM - 2:05 PM and Wed: 7:50 AM - 1:00 PM.

## HPS to hold extended school-year program July 6 through August 6

HOLYOKE – The HPS Extended School Year Program will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 6 to Aug. 6, Monday to Thursday (except for the last day of the program which will be Friday, Aug. 6).

Families can register their students for the 2021 Extended School Year (ESY) program at [enrollholyoke.com](http://enrollholyoke.com) beginning on Monday, March 29 for all qualifying students! Register by June 1st to ensure transportation is in place for the first day of the program. Please note, while we are planning for in-person ESY services, the possibility of start/end date or time changes and the possibility of remote learning will be based on updated state guidance and social distancing guidelines. We will

update you as we receive more information on this. If you are unsure if your child qualifies for extended year services or which program they are recommended for, please check your child's most current IEP and/or check with your child's special education teacher or building team leader. Please reach out to Enrollment at [enrollment@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:enrollment@hps.holyoke.ma.us) if you have any questions about the online registration process or Jill Hughes at [jhughes@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:jhughes@hps.holyoke.ma.us) if you have any questions about extended year services. View our brochure for Extended School Year Brochure-English and Folleto del Año Escolar Extendido-Español for more information.

## Homework House to host sixth annual adult spelling bee April 29

HOLYOKE – It's time to grab your dictionaries and to spell success for Holyoke children! The Sixth Annual Adult Spelling Bee to benefit Homework House will be held on Thursday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. online over Zoom and YouTube Live. This annual event is one of the major fundraisers for Homework House which has been providing free academic tutoring and mentoring for 15 years to school age children in Holyoke.

This year, Homework House is joining with The Spelling Bee Company

from Los Angeles to create a virtual event that is a spelling bee, pledge-athon, and comedy show all rolled into one. Ten teams of enthusiastic spellers will gather on the virtual stage along with The Spelling Bee Company. The professional performers and comedians from the Spelling Bee Company will keep the spellers on their toes and the laughs coming as the evening's emcees and Spelling Bee judges.

Each team will gather pledges in advance of the event that they can use

to 'cheat', 'phone a friend', or as a 'life-line' during the Bee. The more pledges they raise, the more cheats a team can buy. The winning team gets a trophy and bragging rights as the best spellers in Holyoke. There will also be prizes for the best team costume and the best team name. The evening is destined to be a smash hit!

Peoples Bank is the Bee's Knees Sponsor of the event. Additional sponsorship opportunities and team registration are now available.

Homework House serves children, ages 6 – 12. Since its beginning, it has offered free tutoring and mentoring. During the pandemic, it continues its services virtually. Tutors, many who are volunteers from local colleges and the community, provide individualized instruction to strengthen children's educational learning and retention.

To register for a sponsorship or to register a team, please email Suzanne Boniface at [sboniface@homeworkhouse-holyoke.org](mailto:sboniface@homeworkhouse-holyoke.org) or call her at 413-265-1017.

# What to know about the coronavirus variants

*Q&A with Dr. Armando Paez, chief of the Infectious Disease Division at Baystate Health*

SPRINGFIELD – Despite leading the world in COVID-19 infections and being well-equipped with an unsurpassed genome sequencing infrastructure, the United States found itself in the unfortunate position of falling well behind other countries in sequencing coronavirus genomes and getting ahead of emerging variants.

Now back on track and identifying variants that have begun in the United States, including in New York and California, scientists are increasing their COVID-19 sequencing efforts as many question: “Should I be worried over the variants?”

Dr. Armando Paez, chief in the Infectious Disease Division at Baystate Health, answers some pressing questions about what role the variants are playing in the ongoing pandemic.

*Q: Are the coronavirus variants that have emerged over the past few months a cause of concern for epidemiologists?*

A: Any time a new variant of the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV2 is discovered, there is cause for concern. The major variants reported not only in the U.S., but also in other parts of the world, B.1.1.7 (UK), B.1.351 (South Africa) and the P.1 (Brazil) are found to be more infectious than the original SARS-CoV2 strain. More recently, home-grown variants, B.1.526 from New York City and California variant B.1.427/B.1.429, have also been reported. Any of the variants can become the circulating strain in a population and can spread easily to others in a geometric fashion. This carries significant public health importance and urgency as more people can get sick at the same time and overwhelm the health-care system. Scientists are still studying these variants and are also on the lookout for new ones that are emerging. More recently, the B.1.1.7 (UK) variant, thought to be just easily transmissible, is now associated with a higher risk of dying from COVID-19 based on a peer-reviewed study. Depending on the variant, the mutations (changes in the genetic code) can confer resistance to some available COVID-19 treatments. For example, bamlanivimab, a COVID-19 monoclonal antibody authorized for the treatment of mild-moderate COVID-19 is thought to be ineffective against B.1.341 (South Africa) variant. Thus, the variants also carry clinical importance for COVID-19 patients. However, not all COVID-19 treatments may be significantly impacted by the variants. For example, mutations identified in

these new variants have not significantly changed the part of the virus that remdesivir, an FDA-approved drug for severe COVID-19, targets.

*Q: What do these new variants from the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Brazil, as well as those that have originated in the U.S., share in common, and what makes them different from the original COVID-19?*

A: All of these five variants mentioned above have mutations in the spike protein that allow them to latch on better to and infect human cells, making them more transmissible (up to 50% more). All of these variants have now been detected in the United States, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the UK variant is expected to become the dominant strain in the U.S. by the end of March. There are currently, 3,136 cases of the variant in our country as of March 7, according to the CDC.

Early on, South African researchers believed their variant could evade antibodies produced by the immune system. This can imply possible reinfection to occur as the antibodies cannot neutralize the variant virus. This was seen in the P.1 (Brazil) variant. Scientists continue to study how these variants can potentially evade immunity to COVID-19.

*Q: Are the new variants more deadly?*

A: This is an evolving story. Initially, scientists thought that there was no evidence that the infection from any of the variants is more deadly than the old strain. A recent study suggests that there is an association of B.1.1.7 (UK) variant with higher risk of dying from COVID-19. I expect that more information will be available regarding the other variants in the near future.

*Q: Why did it take a while before we began to see different variants of the coronavirus?*

A: Viruses such as SARS-CoV2, the virus behind COVID-19, naturally mutate and viral variants occur. Many variants emerge and disappear, but some persist because their accumulated mutations offer a “survival of the fittest” advantage among others over time to become the dominant circulating virus.

*Q: Is there a difference between a variant of the virus and a mutation, and which is more problematic?*

A: A viral mutation refers to specific changes or alterations in the gene of the virus. This is a natural occurrence in the life of a virus, particularly an RNA virus like the coronavirus. Some mutations do

not change how the virus behaves, but some do affect its characteristics related to its ability to attach to the host cell, for example. This can potentially confer higher risk of transmission of infection given a number of viral particles compared to the old strain. A variant refers to a virus with slight changes in the genetic codes due to these mutations. Depending on the effect on how the virus behaves due to the genetic changes, whether a single mutation or a combination of mutations, it may or may not be problematic. It can be problematic to the host, but offers an advantage to the virus to survive. A variant may become the dominant strain because of its survival advantage in a given environment. What is also important to remember is that if there is more viral replication occurring, let us say, more infections in the community, there is a greater chance for more mutations to occur. That is why interrupting the cycle of transmission can lessen the chance of variants to occur.

*Q: Why are these variants more easily transmissible?*

A: The variants have mutations in the spike protein enabling them to latch on and infect human cells more easily. Many of these mutations are in the receptor binding domain of the virus. The mutation E484K, common in these variants, can increase the affinity of viral protein with its receptor, thus explaining its ability to be easily transmitted.

*Q: Since these variants are more transmissible, does that mean the recommended safety precautions will no longer work to prevent spread of the virus?*

A: Currently recommended safety precautions – vaccination, social distancing, mask wearing, handwashing, and isolation and quarantine – should still work in preventing infections from these variants. Again, if these variants are not given a chance to replicate, the less chance they have to further evolve and survive in the community.

*Q: If the same precautions are enough, why do scientists say more people could become infected in the months ahead?*

A: Vaccine rollout in the U.S. is now making progress, but we are not yet at the level of herd immunity, estimated to be 60-70% either by natural infection or vaccination. Since these variants are more transmissible, if the public is not compliant with recommended safety measures, more exposures and infections will easily occur. The increased number of cases will put more strain on health care resources, lead to more hospitalizations, and potentially more deaths.

*Q: Will the currently available vaccines protect against the variants?*

A: Based on the most recent evidence, the currently available COVID-19 vaccines can still broadly protect you, albeit at differing level of efficacy, from the circulating variants, B.1.1.7 (UK), B.1.351 (South Africa), the P.1 (Brazil) and the two variants – New York and California. The B.1.351 (South Africa) variant more significantly impacts efficacy of the available vaccines. B.1.526 (New York) strain appears to have a similar effect but much less so. Recent reports also suggest that these variants may evade the immunity from natural infection or escape the antibodies from previous infections. Similarly, this can impact the efficacy of the COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies authorized to treat COVID-19. This is closely being investigated and hopefully, more information will be available in the near future.

*Q: What is not known about the variants?*

A: We still do not have a complete picture of how widespread these variants are in the United States and around the world. The CDC is now closely monitoring this as it has huge implications epidemiologically. As mentioned above, these can affect future decisions and interventions in order to curb the pandemic. For example, vaccine designs and booster shots are already being discussed in order to get ahead of the circulating variants.

*Q: Do we expect other variants to surface?*

A: Yes, expect more variants to occur in the future unless we stop the circulation of the virus in the community. As mentioned above, if there is less viral replication, there is less chance for viral mutations, hence variants, to occur.

*Q: Will the new variants prolong the pandemic?*

A: The new and emerging variants can potentially prolong the pandemic because of their ability to be more easily transmitted. This will also depend on other factors such as compliance of the communities to public infection control measures, our ability to detect these variants, the vaccination rates in the community affecting the chance of achieving herd immunity sooner than later, the risk of reinfection, and availability of effective treatments on the new variants.

For more information on Baystate Health, visit [baystatehealth.org](http://baystatehealth.org).

## Veteran tax program opened up to city residents

HOLYOKE – The Veteran Tax Work-Off Program is open to a veteran, as defined by MGL Ch. 4 § 7 clause 43, who owns property in and pays real estate taxes to the City of Holyoke. The

program participant's name must appear on the property deed. The program year runs from July 1 to November 30. A \$1,500 property tax credit minus the required withholdings will be applied to the participant's real estate tax bill in the following fiscal year, not the current year's property tax bill. Applications for additional years will be available in November of each year.

### Program Requirements

Participants should work the required 111.1 hours\* of service. Hours worked may not be shared with another family member. Each individual must fulfill the total hours of service obligation. However, the City of Holyoke, based on need, may place the participant in more than one (1) job in order to fulfill the total hours. Individuals will be credited for any hours worked even if the 111.1 hours are not fulfilled.

\*To receive the maximum \$1,500 tax credit participants must work 111.1 hours. Working less than 111.1 hours results in a pro-rated tax credit based on the number of hours worked.

### Compensation

- \$13.50 per hour (as of Jan. 1, 2021)
- Participants will receive abatement for up to 111.1 hours of service. Any hours worked beyond the 117 hours cannot be accumulated for the Tax Work-Off Program.

• Maximum amount of abatement is \$1,500 per person per fiscal year.

Job Placement for a Tax Credit Position

- Individuals will be chosen based on the best match between the applicant's qualifications and the skill requirements of each job

- Applicants will be interviewed by the department supervisor of the position

for which they have been placed

- There will be a two (2) week probationary period to assess the appropriateness of the placement
- Program participants may not work for relatives who are City employees
- Eligible senior citizens who are veterans can elect to participate in either the veterans' or Senior citizens' tax work-off plans.
- Primary consideration will be given to first-time applicants. Individuals previously chosen for the program may make re-application in subsequent years. No applicant is guaranteed a position. A lottery system may be used if there are more applicants than available positions
- Timesheets will be filled out by the department supervisor on a weekly or monthly basis and submitted to the Veterans Services Director. A final accounting of time worked will be submitted to the Assessor.



# Summer Program Registration begins

HOLYOKE — It may be March, but before you know it, summer will be here. That's why it is never too early to plan for summer programming.

## HPS Summer Learning Academies

The Summer Learning Academies program is being offered from July 6 to Aug. 5, Monday to Thursday. There will be in person and remote programming for all students. Please see the options below that are available for your child(ren):

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at E.N. White for all

HPS students in rising 1-3,

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at E.N. White for all HPS dual language students in rising grades 1-3,

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at McMahon for all HPS students in rising grades 4-5.

A remote program option is offered for all of these programs for the academic portion of the day from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Generation Teach Steam Academy

The Generation Teach program will take place Monday-Friday, June 28 to

Aug. 6 as follows:

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Holyoke STEM Academy for students in rising grades 6-8

## Summer Acceleration Academy

The Summer Acceleration Academy program will take place Monday-Friday, Aug. 9 to 13 as follows:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Morgan, Kelly and Sullivan for all HPS students in rising grades 3-5

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Holyoke High School North for all students in ris-

ing grades 9-12.

Students will be provided with breakfast, lunch and transportation (will be provided to students within district transportation guidelines). For more program information, visit our summer learning web page and view our flyer. Any clarifying questions, please contact [extendedlearning@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:extendedlearning@hps.holyoke.ma.us)

Please register your student by Friday, June 4. Apply using the registration link: <https://www.enrollholyoke.com/login>.

# World's Largest Pancake breakfast postponed to fall



SPRINGFIELD — For public health reasons, the Spirit of Springfield with the City of Springfield has determined it is in the best interest of all to postpone the World's Largest Pancake Breakfast from Saturday, May 15, to a date that has yet to be determined. Like so many other events, this is the second year the event will not be held on its traditional date in mid-May.

"The health and safety of our community is of the utmost importance," said Judy Matt, Spirit of Springfield President. "We are hopeful that we will be able to bring the community together

in celebration at a date later in the year."

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno stated, "Although we are trending in the right direction in mitigating and defeating this COVID-19 pandemic, we must remain vigilant. We do not make these decisions lightly, it is the prudent and right decision. I want to thank Spirit of Springfield President Judy Matt and her team for their continued efforts in trying to keep some of our beloved Springfield traditions going through this pandemic. Unfortunately, the pancake breakfast will have to be postponed this year until we defeat this virus, and we will. I look

forward to the day where we can join with the Spirit of Springfield and celebrate once again."

The World's Largest Pancake Breakfast has been a tradition for Springfield since 1986 when the City of Springfield celebrated the 350th anniversary of its founding which took place on May 14, 1636. It features a hearty breakfast of pancakes, bacon, milk, juice, coffee, and a lot of community spirit.

For more information about the World's Largest Pancake Breakfast, visit [spiritofspringfield.org](http://spiritofspringfield.org).

## Valley Press Club scholarship applications being accepted

REGION — The Valley Press Club, based in Springfield, Mass., will award up to six \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism.

The Valley Press Club Scholarships, funded by contributions and dues to the Press Club, are for students planning careers in print, online or broadcast journalism.

The Republican Scholarship, funded by The Republican, is for students living within the newspaper's circulation area who are planning careers in print journalism.

The 22News Scholarship, funded by WWLP-22News is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism.

The Edward J. Malley Jr. Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of a chief photographer for the Springfield Newspapers, is for students planning careers in photojournalism.

The Rhonda Swan Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of the award-winning journalist, editor and author, is for students who are under-represented, in the Springfield, Mass. area, planning careers in journalism.

The Al Jaffe Scholarship, funded

by Mr. Jaffe, the Valley Press Club's first scholarship recipient in 1964, who retired in 2015 as vice president of talent negotiation and production recruitment at ESPN, is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism or sports journalism.

Primary emphasis is placed on career goals, writing ability, scholastic aptitude and overall achievement as measured by an applicant's high school transcript, class rank, academic awards, SAT scores and extracurricular activities.

Scholarship applications are available at [www.ValleyPressClub.com](http://www.ValleyPressClub.com), high school guidance offices, or by emailing [NTassinari@TheBigE.com](mailto:NTassinari@TheBigE.com). Applications may be sent by mail to Noreen Tassinari, VPC Scholarship Chair, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089 or electronically to [NTassinari@TheBigE.com](mailto:NTassinari@TheBigE.com). The deadline for submissions is April 15. Over the course of five decades, The Valley Press Club has presented over \$130,000 in scholarships to eligible students.

The Valley Press Club consists of active and retired journalists and public relations professionals from corporate and nonprofit organizations.

## New app launches, aids Connecticut River paddlers

GREENFIELD — A new smartphone app launched on World Water Day, March 22, to help paddlers navigate the Connecticut River, particularly for multi-day paddles.

The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail is a unique, water-based trail that includes a series of primitive campsites and river access points spanning over 400 miles of the Connecticut River through NH, VT, MA and CT.

CRPT is managed by a collaborative of more than 30 nonprofit organizations and state agencies, including the Connecticut River Conservancy, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the Vermont River Conservancy. Those interested in downloading the app can find it in CRC's online store at [www.ctriver.org/shop](http://www.ctriver.org/shop), or search "Guthook Guides" in your smartphone app store.

"We chose to launch this new app on World Water Day, a day where people around the world recognize the importance of water in our lives," says Gabriel Chevalier, CRPT Coordinator. "The Connecticut River is the longest river in New England and enriches our lives in many ways. It offers many recreational opportunities that promote healthy communities and boost local economies.

This new app offers paddlers an easy-to-use digital paddling guide to navigate the CRPT campgrounds, access points, rapids and other resources along the Connecticut River."

Proceeds from the \$9.99 app and waterproof printed maps are used to fund trail stewardship projects. The app was developed in partnership with Atlas/Guthook Guides, who offer similar app-based guides for other well-known trails like the Long Trail and the Appalachian Trail. The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail map is available as an in-app purchase in the Guthook Guides app, a free download from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail is managed by a collaborative of organizations, guided by a shared vision. Partners assist with trail planning and development, building and stewarding primitive campsites, improving access points and portage trails, and disseminating information to visitors. Campsite development, as well as ongoing stewardship, is carried out by volunteers, scout troops, and youth stewardship corps who work together to mitigate the impacts of recreation use. To learn more, visit [connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org](http://connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org).

## COVID-19 testing at HCC extended through June

HOLYOKE — Even though infection rates have been dropping and vaccinations are becoming more readily available, free "Stop the Spread" COVID-19 testing at Holyoke Community College has been extended through June 2021, according to the Holyoke Board of Health.

Drive-through testing at HCC is conducted six days a week in parking lot H near the western entrance to the Donahue Building on the college's main campus, 303 Homestead Ave.

Wait times for tests are not nearly as long as they used to be, according to site administrators, with only a handful of

vehicles lined up at the busiest times.

HCC has been serving as a "Stop the Spread" drive-through testing site since last summer to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Drivers are asked to enter the campus from Homestead Avenue, turn left onto the Campus Road and proceed to parking lot H. There will be signs and parking attendants on site to manage the flow of traffic.

The HCC testing site is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Testing is free to all Massachusetts residents, and conducted on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are no appointments and no referral is necessary. Turnaround time for results is typically four days or fewer.

More information on all of the Stop the Spread test sites across the state can be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread>

Please Note: Testing may sometimes be cancelled due to inclement weather. Be sure to visit the Holyoke Board of Health website for up-to-date information on cancellations: <https://www.holyoke.org/departments/board-of-health>.



The COVID-19 test site at Holyoke Community College will continue to offer drive-thru testing until the end of June.

Submitted photo

## Poetry Corner

### Baseball

by Thomas J. Kennedy

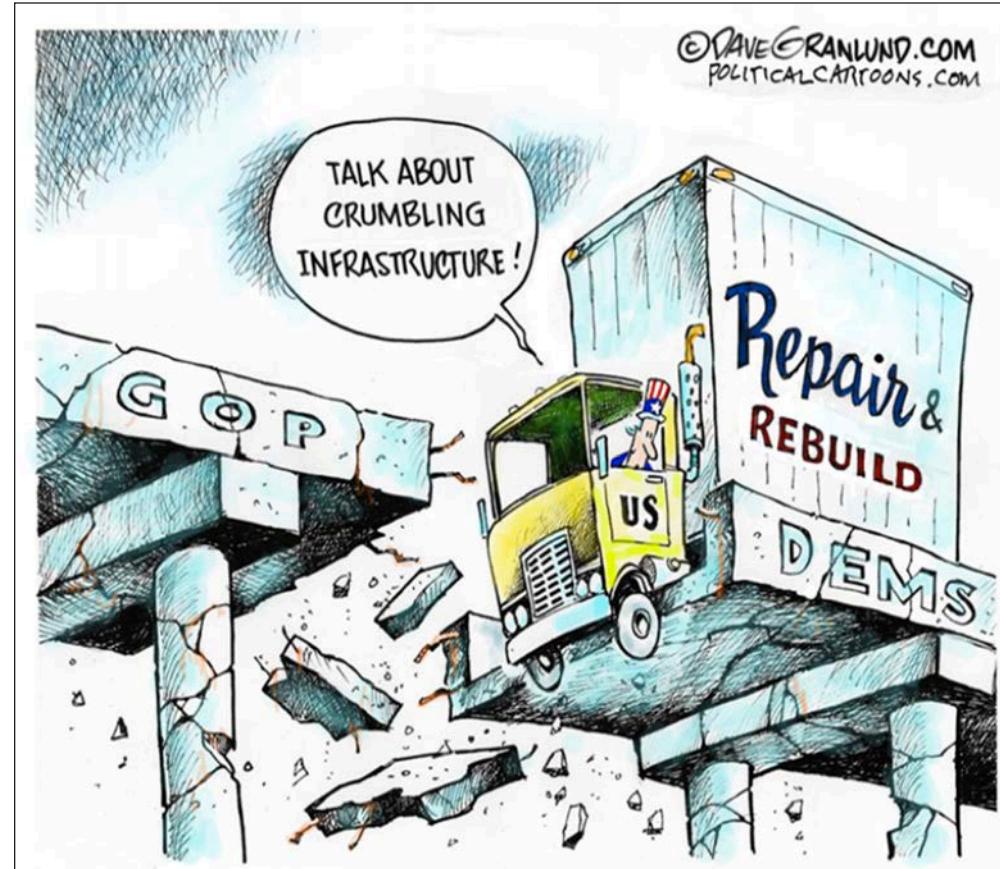
*Baseball has been on the slide;  
For some in the American Game  
have struck out.*

*Fighting, drugs and negative attitudes,  
Have brought a generation gap.  
Those who knew their skills  
like Mays, Mantle and Ted...  
No prima donnas, for they cared,  
like Ruth and Gehrig too.*

*From children to grandmothers,  
They heard their voices say:  
Going... Going... Gone...  
Until another day.*

*Today ball players are paid unjustly—  
Money for having less ability.  
Bring back the baseball we knew,  
Where unjust money weren't there.*

*Take me out to the ballgame,  
Buy me some peanuts or Cracker Jacks,  
If you can!*



## Guest Column

### The best way to root stem cuttings

Neil, who reads the column in the Wilbraham Times, asked the Garden Lady to write about taking stem cuttings. He enjoyed my commentary on houseplants from a few weeks back and seemed interested in trying his hand at propagating some of his own plants by this method. Here you go, Neil! I wish you loads of success.

Getting a piece of stem to form roots is relatively easy. Here are a few tips that will guarantee your success. First, make sure that the plant you are taking the cuttings from, called the "stock plant," is insect and disease-free and well hydrated. Plan to take cuttings in the morning before the heat of the day has a chance to cause any wilting. A clean, sharp pair of scissors or hand pruners is the best tool for the job. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season. Spring is a great time to take cuttings of plants that you've overwintered provided they are growing well. Just this past week I took cuttings of both scented geraniums and rosemary.



ROBERTA  
MCQUAID  
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Begin by examining your stock plant. Those stems with the closest placed nodes are the best choice for cutting material. Nodes are the point on the stem from which the leaves grow. There is a strong accumulation of hormones in this area; for that reason stem cuttings are taken just after a node. Terminal cuttings, (those from the growth tip) three to four inches long are desirable. It is tempting to take longer pieces, figuring that the end result will be a larger plant. These are likely to wilt before they root or take a very long time to root because the stems are woodier the further down you go. Play it safe with stout cuttings.

There are all kinds of potting mediums in which to place the cutting while it is growing roots. Ideally it should be able to hold enough moisture to keep the cutting turgid yet not hold so much that it rots the stem. Sand, perlite, and soilless potting mixes have all been used with success. Water is not recommended as "watery roots" will have a harder time adapting to potting soil later

on. I have had good luck rooting cuttings in peat-based potting mixes that are formulated for seed starting. Moisten the material well and fill your clean container of choice up to the top and tamp it down.

Cut only a few cuttings at a time so that wilting doesn't occur while you prepare the stems for insertion into the growing medium. Strip off the bottom one-third of leaves from the cutting. If you wish to shorten the amount of time it takes for rooting to occur, a commercial rooting hormone can be used. These come in powder or liquid forms. Follow the directions on the container. I have found that "less is more" when using these products. When you are ready to "stick" the cutting make an indentation into the growing medium with a pencil or dibble first; do not push in with the stem! After the cutting is inserted, firm the medium around it well so that it stays in place. Put the container, cuttings and all in a clear plastic bag and place in a shady location. The humidity within the bag ought to prevent the stems from wilting. Water well, only about once weekly. After a

*See XXXXXX, page 7*

### Will my widow's benefit replace my own benefits?

By Russell Gloor

Dear Rusty: My husband is 76, retired for four years, and receiving Social Security. I am only 59 and still working. We are both in good health and I'd like to think we still have many years to enjoy retirement. My question: Is it true that if I start Social Security at 62, I can switch to my husband's Social Security benefits when he passes? If this is true (and his amount is slightly higher than my FRA amount), wouldn't it make sense for me to begin collecting at 62? Signed: Younger Spouse

Dear Younger Spouse: Yes, it is true that if you start your reduced personal Social Security benefit at age 62, and your husband (collecting a benefit higher than your own) predeceases you, you can switch to his higher benefit amount. But there are some other factors which come into play when dealing with survivor benefits, especially with an age difference:

• You must be at least 60 years old to claim your survivor benefit (or 50 if you are disabled).

• Your survivor benefit will be reduced if you haven't yet reached your own full retirement age (FRA) when you claim it. The reduction is 4.75% for each full year earlier

### SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

than your FRA that you claim the survivor benefit.

• You do not need to take your survivor benefit immediately upon your husband's death. Your survivor benefit as your husband's widow reaches maximum at your FRA, and you can choose to delay claiming your widow's benefit until you reach your FRA (to get the maximum amount).

• If you claim any Social Security benefit before your FRA (your own or your survivor benefit), and you are working, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn before SS takes back some of your benefits.

Considering the above, if your eventual benefit as your husband's widow will be the highest benefit you will be entitled to, then claiming your personal Social Security benefit at age 62 may be a prudent strategy. It allows you to collect your own benefit earlier (albeit reduced) until your higher survivor benefit kicks in to replace the smaller amount.

However, your plans for working prior to your full retirement age are key to deciding if you should claim benefits earlier. If you exceed the earnings limit (\$18,960 for 2021), Social Security will take away some of your benefits, which could mean you go

without benefits until they recover what you owe. Indeed, if your earnings are high enough, you may find that you would get no Social Security benefits because the amount you owe for exceeding the earnings limit would completely offset your Social Security benefit.

So, as you can see, if you are working with a high income, the earnings limit might imply that waiting until your FRA to claim any Social Security benefit is the smartest move. But if you don't work after you claim Social Security, then taking your own benefit early and later switching to your higher widow's benefit at or after your FRA would be a sound choice.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

**the Sun**  
HOLYOKE  
The Sun is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

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### A Quote

#### OF NOTE

"The Boston Marathon is literally 26 miles of people lining the roads thinking you are the greatest person on earth."

**Joe McFarren**

### Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com). Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

## Conservation Corps, Space age and animal cruelty: April 1 to April 15

History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children's books that emphasize the importance of American history.

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

Intrinsically, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was a conservationist, who once said, "the forests are the lungs of our land [which] purify our air and give fresh strength to our people."

On April 5, 1933, a year after he was elected President, FDR formed the Civilian Conservation Corps [CCC]; he believed it would put thousands of citizens back to work during "the Great Depression" and ensure the health of America's woodlands.

Those who enlisted in "Roosevelt's Tree Army" got \$30 per month, approximately \$600 in 2021 currency, and access to vocational education to facilitate their re-entry into the job market. Enlistment was intended to be only six months, but many of the recruits stayed longer.

According to History.com, "CCC employees fought forest fires, planted trees, cleared and maintained access roads, re-seeded grazing lands and implemented soil-erosion controls. They built wildlife refuges, fish-rearing facilities, water storage basins and animal shelters. To encourage citizens to get out and enjoy America's natural resources, FDR authorized the CCC to build bridges and campground facilities. From 1933 to 1942, the CCC employed over 3 million men."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Hitch" by Jeanette Ingold.

### Space age

America's space age began April 9, 1959, when seven test pilots with "The Right Stuff" were formally presented to the nation as its inaugural astronauts. The "Mercury Project", as they were known, was composed of Scott Carpenter, L. Gordon Cooper Jr., John H. Glenn Jr., Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Walter Schirra Jr., Alan Shepard Jr. and Donald Slayton.

Their goal was to launch a sequence of successfully manned missions to space.

Two years earlier, the Soviet Union had astonished the world, when it put the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, into orbit, but America, resolved to eclipse them, was stunned a second time, when

their cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, piloted the planet's first manned space flight in April 1961, less than a month before Mercury astronaut Alan Shepard, went up in his spacecraft, the Freedom 7.

By then, the hustle for celestial superiority was ramped up with a zing, but the U.S. continued to lag—until 1969, when NASA's Apollo astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins took "one giant leap for mankind"—and landed on the moon.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Project Mercury: America in Space Series" by Eugen Reichl.

### HISTORY MATTERS

#### Preventing animal cruelty

Henry Bergh was a wealthy man who learned a great lesson when he was given a diplomatic post at the U.S. Embassy in Russia by President Abraham Lincoln. As one account put it, "While in St. Petersburg he is reputed to have seen a droshkie or Russian peasant beating his fallen cart horse. Bergh dismounted from his own carriage and intervened, saving the horse from a further beating that day. Upon his return to America in 1865, he stopped in England and met with the president of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Once back in New York, Bergh quickly took action to affect the formation of a similar society in the United States."

On April 10, 1866, he founded American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; it became a model for the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

His passion and his accounts of the cruelties suffered by animals enabled him to convince the New York State Legislature to give him a charter to organize the first ASPCA, and to enact the first anti-cruelty law in the United States.

The ASPCA also got the power to investigate complaints of animal cruelty, and to make arrests. History.com notes that "As the pioneer and innovator of the humane movement, the ASPCA quickly became the model for more than 25 other humane organizations in the United States and Canada."

By the time Bergh died in 1888, 37 of the 38 states in the Union [at that time] had passed anti-cruelty laws."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "A Traitor to His Species: Henry Bergh and the Birth of the Animal Rights Movement," 1st Edition, by Ernest Freeberg,

ly-rooted cuttings together in a mixed planter works well, too.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekenney@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

## BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Sun, please email [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com).

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## Barbara Ann Filmore

1947 – 2021

Barbara Ann Filmore, age 73, of Holyoke, passed away from Lewy Body Dementia on April 3, 2021. She was born in Holyoke on September 19, 1947, to Thomas and Charlotte Filmore; she was the second of two children and the only daughter. After graduating from the Newport School for Girls, Barbara earned her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education and her Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Westfield State College in Westfield, Massachusetts. Barbara taught elementary school for 38 years, first at William G. Morgan Elementary School and then at H.B. Lawrence Elementary School, both in Holyoke. She retired in 2007. Barbara was an avid New York Yankee fan, loved living in her Madison, Connecticut family cottage every summer, and treasured spending time with her family and friends.

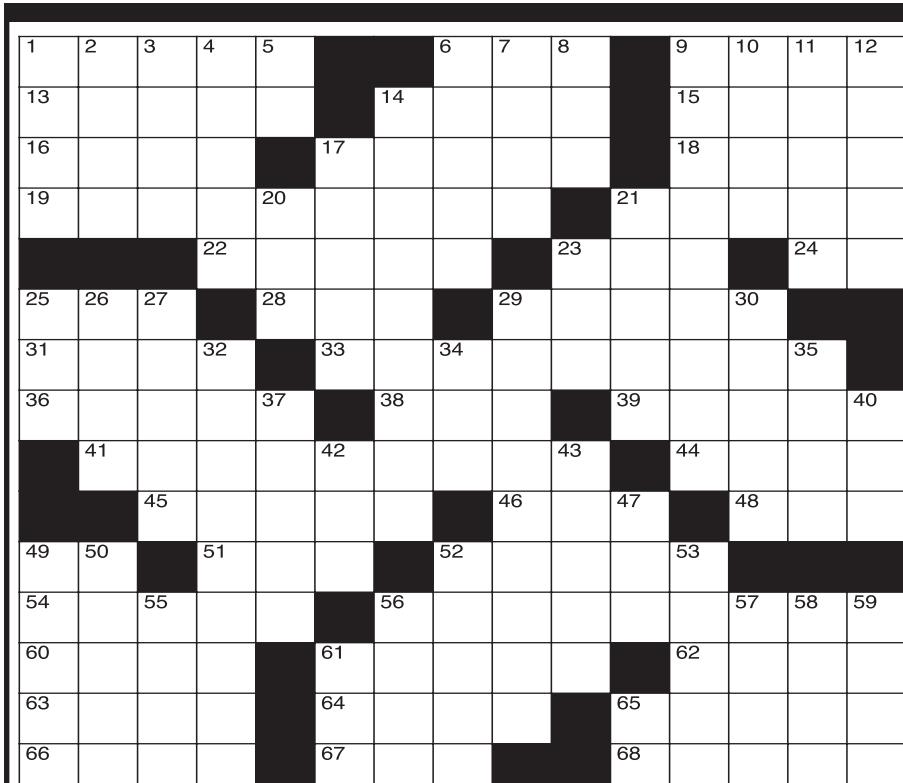
Barbara is survived by her brother, Thomas Henry Filmore and spouse Anita Diane; aunt, Sandra Robinson; niece, Amy Filmore Nassar and spouse Josh; great-nieces Naomi, Justice, and Janis; and many friends. Barbara's deep love for family and friends was cherished and will be missed. Services for Barbara will take place on Monday, April 12, 2021, as follows: visitation from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home, 2049 Northampton Street; funeral service inside the funeral home at 12:00 PM; burial at 1 PM at Forestdale Cemetery, Cabot Street. Public is welcome for services, masks and social distancing are required at all times. Flowers can be ordered from Jan's Flowers & Gifts in Holyoke, Massachusetts, or a donation can be made in Barbara's name to Make-A-Wish America.

### DEATH NOTICE

#### FILMORE, BARBARA ANN

Died: April 3, 2021  
Funeral Services:  
April 12th @ 12pm  
Barry J. Farrell  
Funeral Home

**OBITUARY POLICY:** Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$89, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com). Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



#### CLUES ACROSS

1. One who manufactures	36. Options	68. Kenyan river	26. ___ or bust
6. Science degree	38. Annoy	39. Greek mountain	27. Icelandic poems
9. Database	41. Pastas	40. A citizen of Pakistan	29. A very pale
13. Desert	44. Fishes	1. Millisecond	30. Metric linear unit
14. Inventor Musk	45. Wrap	2. Acts as military assistant	32. Sea eagle
15. Welsh valley	46. Potentially a criminal (slang)	3. Knot in a tree	35. Biblical judge of Israel
16. Round Dutch cheese	48. Seize	4. Husband-and-wife industrial designers	37. Isaac's mother (Bib.)
17. Saying	49. The Constitution State	5. The Ocean State	40. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
18. Comedian and TV host	51. Upset	6. Point the finger at	42. Cool!
19. Uppermost portions of the brain	52. 1991 men's Wimbledon champ	7. Parts in a machine	43. Large hotel room
21. City in Transylvania	54. Central Chinese province	8. Midway between northeast and east	47. Type of boat (abbr.)
22. Where astronauts go	56. Predisposition	9. Portray precisely	49. Picked
23. Men's hairstyle	60. A notice of someone's death	10. Blister	50. Type of hookah
24. Indicates position	61. One-time Kentucky Rep.	11. Mental illness	52. Attack
25. One point east of due south	62. Swiss river	12. Nose of an animal	53. Directs
28. Businessmen may have one	63. Dried-up	14. What students receive	55. Belgian WWI
29. Grass part	64. Finger millet	17. Semitic peoples	56. Finished negotiation
31. Running back Gurley	65. Allan Poe	20. Beats per minute	57. Heroic tale
33. Unwavering	66. German river	21. Family of drugs	58. Middle Eastern country
	67. Brew	23. Atrocious	59. Protein-rich liquids
		25. Type of microscope (abbr.)	61. Malaysian Isthmus
		27. Spielberg's alien	65. Spielberg's alien

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 13

# Easter in the city



With many communities events having to be either cancelled or modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the city tried to hold a social distanced Easter event allowing drive-by viewing of the Easter bunny, and the opportunity to celebrate the holiday.

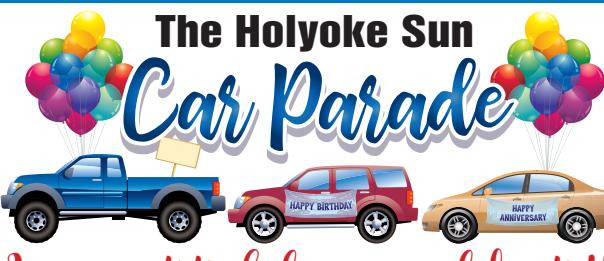
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## Knights win high-scoring slugfest

**By Tim Peterson**  
*Sports Correspondent*

CHICOPEE — Just like in the previous two meetings on the gridiron between Holyoke and Chicopee Comp, last Thursday afternoon's game was a high scoring affair. The two high school football teams combined to score a total of eleven touchdowns.

When the dust finally settled, the Purple Knights players were celebrating a 44-34 victory spoiling the Colts senior day at Mitchell Kuzdzal Field.

"Our offense had a no quit attitude in today's game," said Holyoke head coach Joe Dutsar. "Having the lead for the whole game was also extremely important for our confidence. I don't know how the players

would've responded had we ever trailed in the game."

Not only did the Purple Knights (1-1) get into the win column for the first time during the Fall II season, they also snapped a two-game losing streak against the Colts (0-3).

The last meeting between the two high school's took place in October of 2019. Comp walked away with a 53-35 in that game. The Colts squeaked a 31-28 road win over the Purple Knights in 2018.

A couple of Holyoke players played very well offensively in this year's contest.

Junior quarterback Quinn Cauley completed six passes for 81 yards and three touchdowns. He also scored a rushing touchdown.

Senior running back

William Dumoulin rushed for a total of 183 yards on 12 carries. He also scored two touchdowns.

"William is a tough kid," Dutsar said. "I don't think he gets enough credit because we have so many skill players."

Junior Jael Cabera also had two receiving touchdowns.

"We were able to spread the ball around to multiple players and it kept them from focusing on just one player," Dutsar added. "Our defense made a huge play in the fourth quarter."

The Purple Knights were missing two key linemen. Junior Aidan Stark and senior Kevin Jourdain, who's going to be playing college football

*See FOOTBALL, page 10*



William Alicea tries to get through a block.



Quarterback Quinn Cauley throws over the middle.



Carlos Cruz attempts to make a tackle.



Scott Leary tries to escape a tackle. Photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)

## State tournament added for spring sports

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

REGION — This fall, a statewide tournament will take the place of the Western Massachusetts tournaments schools in the region have been used to for many years.

This school year was supposed to be the final year of the sectional tournaments held that are sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association. However, two of those tournaments, the fall and winter, were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It also cancelled what existed for a state tournament, which consisted of sectional champion versus

sectional champion. The four sectional champions would meet in semifinals and then finals.

While the MIAA was looking to hold a spring tournament, it was only going to occur at the sectional level. Now, the Board of Directors have approved the two-game state tournaments for the spring season, which will begin on Monday, April 26. There will be a short pre-season and games will begin in early May.

The spring season is set to include baseball, softball, lacrosse, tennis, outdoor track, and boys volleyball. It is also supposed to include wrestling, a winter sport that

*See TOURNAMENT, page 10*

## Thompson Icebreaker 125 just the start of Big Outlaw Open season

WATERBURY, Vt. — Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park is just over a week away from the annual Icebreaker. The 82nd season opener on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11 is headlined by the Icebreaker 125 for the new Outlaw Open Modified Series, pitting the region's Tour-type Modified stars in a

\$10,000-to-win showdown.

Noted open-wheel racers such as Doug Coby, Craig Lutz, Bobby Santos III, Jon McKenna, and Matt Swanson are officially committed to the Icebreaker 125. The Sunday shootout is just the beginning, though. Six Outlaw Open Series events are planned for the 2021 season with big purses and even bigger action.



The Big Outlaw Open starts this weekend with the Thompson Icebreaker 125. Submitted photo

It culminates with the return of the Thompson 300. The \$20,000-to-win event is part of the World Series of Speedway Racing on October 8-10. It's been 16 years since the late Ted Christopher won the last Thomson 300 in 2005. Not only is the Icebreaker 125 important in its own right, but it also starts preparations for an event that is hallowed in Modified lore.

"The Icebreaker is always the big opener in New England to get back going and get started racing again, so I'm definitely looking forward to that," two-time Modified Racing Series champion Chris Pasteryak said. "As for the sea-

*See RACING, page 10*

# All Northeast-10 colleges to make playoffs

COLCHESTER, Vt. - The Northeast-10 Conference unveiled its postseason plan for the spring semester on Thursday, announcing all baseball, men's and women's lacrosse, softball and men's and women's tennis programs will automatically qualify for league tournaments while also revealing the date and location of the men's golf championship. Saint Michael's College sponsors all seven of these sports, with each program having begun competition already this spring.

Similar to the adjustments made to spring schedules as part of the conference's return-to-play plan, the NE10 has altered postseason competition formats in an effort to reduce travel and allow for

regular COVID-19 surveillance testing. The allowance of full-field postseason formats factors in the reality of teams not being able to complete their full regular-season schedules due to COVID-19 protocol and therefore allows each team the opportunity to compete for a league championship.

Key changes to the normal postseason format includes a one-day, 36-hole men's golf championship on April 20 at Springfield Country Club in West Springfield, Mass. For baseball, women's lacrosse and softball, whose regular seasons are being played within divisions, the postseason format retains a divisional format until the final championship event or series. Both divisions

have their own seven-team bracket to determine which two schools will play for that NE10 championship, as the top seed from each draws a first-round bye while the second through fourth seeds host opening-round contests. The women's lacrosse tournament begins on April 30, softball on May 4 and baseball on May 11. Divisional finals for baseball and softball are best-of-three series before the Northeast and Southwest division winners meet in another best-of-three set.

The seven-team men's tennis championship begins on April 24, when the No. 1 seed receives a bye while the second- through fourth-seeded squads host opening-round matches. Women's

tennis and men's lacrosse, which start on April 25 and 28, respectively, will feature 11-team brackets, with the top five squads in each receiving first-round byes. The sixth, seventh and eighth seeds host opening-round contests.

All brackets or schedules are subject to change based on the established institutional and conference health protocol. The health and safety of student-athletes, coaches and campus communities remains the primary focus for the league. Conference winning percentage will determine championship seeding for team sports, with higher seeds serving as the host institutions throughout the tournaments. All game and match times are to be determined.

## FOOTBALL, from page 9

at Yale University in the fall, were sidelined with injuries.

Despite the final outcome in this week's game, Comp head coach Tony Couture was pleased with his team's effort against Holyoke.

"We would've loved to have won the game, but we played so much better today than we did during the first two weeks," Couture said. "We're just trying to get a little bit better in every game, which we did today."

The 15 Colts seniors, who were honored in a ceremony following the game along with the senior cheerleaders, are Brennan Fields, Giovanni Sharlow, Caleb Ellis, Jacob Layda, De'Nali Treadwell, Gabe Joubert, Trent Bordeau, Nathan Conde, Jordan Boyington, Nathan Laplante, Tyler Leahy, Richard Seymour, Brad Bobrowski, Cam Boylan, and Ezequiel Perez.

"I'm just happy that the seniors have this experience this year," Couture said. "For a long time, it didn't look like we would even be playing football because of COVID. All of them are great kids

and they're going to be successful in life."

Conde, who's a running back, led the way offensively for the home team. He carried the ball a total of 30 times for 172 and four touchdowns.

"Nathan played a great game today," Couture said. "The linemen did an outstanding job of giving him room to run."

The offensive fireworks began on the first play of the game.

Cauley, who's a left-handed QB, threw a pass to senior Scott Leary. He then lateraled the ball back to Dumoulin, who sprinted down the left sideline into the endzone completing the 80-yard play.

The Purple Knights ran a similar type of play against the Colts in a game 25 years ago. Current assistant coach David Guzman scored the touchdown in that game.

"Guzman played for me back in 1996 and that same play we ran here at Comp. He was on the receiving end of the lateral," Dutsar said. "We were reminiscing about it and he told me we should put it in. He called me today and said, 'First play?' and I said absolutely."

Dumoulin also scored on the two-point conversion play.

The Colts scored their first touchdown with 7:58 left in the opening quarter when Fields completed a 10-yard TD pass over the middle to junior Kaleb Kemp. Cabrera sacked the QB on the conversion play.

Four minutes later, Holyoke took a 16-6 lead following Cabrera's first TD reception. He also made an amazing one-handed catch in the end zone in the middle of the second quarter.

Cabrera's second receiving touchdown was sandwiched between a pair of rushing touchdowns by Conde tying the score at 22-22 with less than five minutes remaining in the opening half.

Following interceptions by both teams, the Purple Knights capped off the first half scoring with Cauley completing an 8-yard TD pass to Leary. The duo also hooked up on the two-point conversion play.

Conde scored his third rushing touchdown on his team's first possession of the third quarter. He was tackled by Holyoke junior Russell Rivera short of the goal-line on the conversion try making the score 30-28.

The Purple Knights entered the final quarter holding a 36-28 advantage fol-

lowing a five-yard touchdown run by Cauley, who was injured early in the fourth quarter and didn't return to action.

With 5:43 left in the game, Conde scored his fourth TD on a one-yard run. Just like in the third quarter, Comp failed to tie the score on the conversion play.

On the second play of Holyoke's next offensive series, Dumoulin broke away from several would be tacklers and rambled 65 yards into the endzone. Then sophomore QB Dymetri Gonzales, who had never thrown a pass in a varsity game, tossed a TD pass to sophomore David Sicard on the conversion play, which increased the Purple Knights lead to 44-34.

"This is the first time that Gonzales has ever played quarterback in a varsity game," Dutsar said. "We had to battle really hard to win this game."

Gonzales also intercepted a pass preventing the Colts from scoring another touchdown.

The Colts offense would have one final scoring chance, but they turned the ball over on downs.

Then Gonzales took a knee a couple of times before the referee blew his whistle for the final time.

## RACING, from page 9

son in general, the way I look at it is that the Thompson 300 is the biggest Modified race of the year. So the more laps we get at Thompson over the course of the year leading up to the 300, hopefully the better we can run in it."

In-between the Icebreaker 125 and the Thompson 300 are four \$5,000-to-win Wednesday night shows on June 16, July 7, August 11, and September 15. The Wednesday dates make it easy for teams to tackle the Thompson high banks without weekly or touring series conflicts.

In the meantime, all eyes are on the Icebreaker showdown. The event is 125 green-flag laps with teams allowed to use eight tires. Racers have to be fast and use the right strategy to stand in Victory Lane.

"I love it," Oakdale, CT's Zachem said of the 125-lap distance. "It's a pit-stop race, so more or less, you are racing to halfway to figure out your pit stop situation. I'm looking forward to it. We've always run well over at Thompson."

It's definitely going to make a difference," Moosup, CT's Pasteryak added. "When you're counting caution laps and you get to 50 or 60 laps to go, you normally only count on getting about 35 of them under green. Whereas now when you get to 50 or 60 to go, there's still potentially a pretty long race left. And then you know that, if you have some tires left in the pit stall, or you want to try a strategy where you hold off and pit a little bit later, you know you're going to have that many laps to actually try and race your way back to the front and not just ride around behind the pace car to finish the day."

A total of 29 drivers have pre-entered the event, including Keith Rocco, Mike Christopher Jr., Eric Goodale, Andrew Krause, Patrick Emerling, and Jeff Gallup. The current entry list alone accounts for dozens of championships and hundreds of race wins. Several other teams have indicated they'll be there, setting up a stacked field with many potential winners.

The Outlaw Open Modified Series is the brainchild of PASS's Tom

Mayberry and ACT's Cris Michaud, who are co-promoting the Thompson Speedway oval track events this season. The duo put on two events at Thompson in 2020 and have banded together to carry on the track's storied tradition.

Thompson Speedway opened in 1940 and was long known as the "Indianapolis of the East", attracting every notable name in motorsports. Even today, the track is revered among the racing community. Drivers such as Ryan Preece, Harrison Burton, Bobby Santos III, and Derek Griffith have used Thompson victories as a springboard to national opportunities.

"What Cris Michaud and Tom Mayberry have done for Thompson is huge," Zachem said. "Taking the chance last year to run the track, with everything going on with COVID...I started at the Little T Speedway in 2000 and everyone's dream is to run the big track one day and I made it there. It's really cool to see the track still going."

Thompson Speedway opens its 82nd season with the annual Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11.

Ten local and regional series go green at the two-day racing festival. Sunday's card features the \$10,000-to-win Icebreaker 125 for the Outlaw Open Modified Series. There's also a 40-lap ACT-type Late Model shootout plus the Limited Sportsman and SK Light Modifieds. Post time is 1:15pm.

Saturday's six-division card is highlighted by the Thompson 75 for the PASS North Super Late Models beginning at 1:00pm. They're joined by the Sunoco Modifieds, NEMA LITES Midgets, EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge, Mini Stocks, and an 8-Cylinder Street Stock Open. An optional Test N' Tune practice day is slated for Friday, April 9 for all Icebreaker divisions.

Adult general admission is \$30 for Saturday and \$35 for Sunday. Kids ages 12 and under are \$10 each day. Advance tickets are available at <https://happysnow.com/event/Thompson-Speedway-Motorsports-Park-YHPQ>. Grandstand attendance is limited to 50% of capacity per Connecticut COVID-19 guidelines. Pit passes will be sold at the track.

start on June 16 and 17 with a June 15 cut-off date for regular season games. A short spring season is not unusual to teams as the first two weeks of spring often are filled with weather issues, and rain can sometimes cancel many baseball and softball games.

There will be no neutral sites for the tournament, and the higher seed will be the home team through the tournament. However, it is not known if neutral sites will be used in the two-game state tournament.

## Contact the Sports Editor

Have the scoop on a local sports story? Want to submit a team photo, pass along a potential story idea, or just find out how to get a copy of that great photo of your young athlete? Please send all sports-related press releases and information to Sports Editor Greg Scibelli at: [sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com) or call, 1-413-283-8393.

## TOURNAMENT, from page 9

was deemed to high to happen during the winter while there was a second major spike in COVID-19 cases.

The MIAA Tournament Management Committee met on Thursday, March 25 to discuss the spring tournaments.

The key to tournaments will take place on June 2. That is the deadline for teams to opt in or out of the tourna-

ment. Schools will have the ability to decide, for the safety of their students, whether or not they will participate in a spring tournament. The opt-in or out is for schools that may be in high-risk areas and do not want to risk facing teams they may not normally see.

Since the pandemic, schools in Western and Central Massachusetts have been placed in geographically-centered pods to limit travel and exposure.

The spring tournament is set to



## Stoneleigh-Burnham School Offers In-Person Day & Residential Summer Camps

GREENFIELD – Stoneleigh-Burnham School (SBS), an independent day and boarding school in Greenfield, Massachusetts, is pleased to announce in-person day and residential summer camps for equestrians, performing artists, debaters and public speakers ages 7-18. SBS's signature summer programs are hosted by expert faculty on their beautiful 100-acre campus in Greenfield. The programs emphasize the development of confidence, the acquisition of skills, and the discovery of new talents.

SBS's Summer Camps begin June 20, 2021 and include Speak Up I, an introduction to debate & public speaking for girls ages 10-13; Speak Up II, an advanced program for girls ages 13-18 with experience in debate & public speaking; Performing Arts Camp, a coed program for students ages 10-18 with an interest in dancing, singing and acting; the premier Bonnie Castle Riding Camp, a riding program for girls ages 8-16 for all skill levels; and a new Horsemanship Day Camp for boys and girls ages 7-12.

Parents and guardians will be able to choose between three choices of camp structure: a day camp schedule from 8am-4pm that includes lunch, an extended day camp schedule from 8am-8pm that includes lunch and dinner, or the weekly residential camp option. There are discounts available for returning families, families who register more than one child, or those who sign up for multiple weeks. Financial assistance for day campers may also be available to those who qualify.

SBS Summer Program Director Heidi Gebo has been directing youth camps throughout Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley for 20 years. "It's important for us to be able to offer

a diverse array of camp options for students and give families multiple options to help accommodate their work schedules," said Heidi.

To learn more or to register, please visit [sbschool.org/summer](http://sbschool.org/summer) or email [summerprograms@sbschool.org](mailto:summerprograms@sbschool.org).

*Stoneleigh-Burnham School has (SBS) been preparing girls grades 7-12 & PG for college and the world. SBS is an academic community with an international perspective that inspires girls to pursue meaningful lives based on honor, respect, and intellectual curiosity. Each student is challenged to discover her best self and graduate with the confidence to think independently and act ethically, secure in the knowledge that her voice will be heard.*

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## Factors to consider before choosing a summer camp

**A**dults often look back fondly on their childhood experiences at summer camp. Camps can provide the opportunity to form lifelong friendships and discover rewarding hobbies that can enrich campers' lives for decades to come.

Choosing a summer camp is no small task, as the options at families' disposal range from overnight camps to weekday afternoon camps to camps that specialize in certain programs, such as music or dance. Cost also is likely to factor into families' decisions, as the American Camp Association notes that cost can vary greatly depending on which camp families choose. For example, the ACA notes that the average daily fee at a resident camp is \$85, while the same fee at a day camp is \$43.

When looking for a summer camp for kids, families should make the decision together. Kids should be involved in the selection process, as they're more likely to have an enjoyable camp experience if they had a say in where they will be spending their summers. The following are some factors families should consider as they look for summer camps, courtesy of the ACA.

#### Kids' interests

The ACA urges parents to consider the child's interests and personality before choosing a summer camp. Parents might want their children to attend the same summer camp they visited as youngsters, but each child is different. Just because mom



and dad liked a particular camp does not mean their children will. The ACA notes that summer camps should align with children's interests and maturity level.

#### Locale

Locale may only be a consideration for families considering overnight camps. Kids will likely be familiar with the locations of local day camps, but overnight camps might be set in mountain ranges, near the ocean or environments less familiar to youngsters. Kids who love the ocean might benefit from oceanfront camps that focus on marine biology, boating or other activities involving the water. In the same vein, youngsters who like camping and hiking might be more likely to embrace camps located in mountainous regions.

#### Session length

Camps may last as little as one week or up to a couple of months. Session length should be considered by families looking at both local day camps and overnight resident camps. Parents who want their children to enjoy a largely schedule-free summer might not want to commit their children to lengthy camp sessions, even if those sessions are close to home. If parents think their children can benefit from the same structure they're accustomed to during the school year, then an overnight camp that stretches for several weeks might be what they're looking for.

Summer camps give kids a chance to make memories that will last a lifetime. Choosing the right camp is an important decision that parents and kids should make together.

 **Stoneleigh-Burnham School**  
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*From Bement's beautiful campus in Historic Deerfield*

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BALLET**  
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**MAYOR, from page 1**

The petition was submitted last week by the city council, which allows an acting mayor to be appointed from within the Holyoke City Council.

Mayor Alex Morse resigned from office two weeks ago. His place was taken by Council President Todd McGee. But employment and other issues are making the appointment a temporary one.

Two city councilors, Ward 2 Councilor Terence Murphy, and At-Large Councilor Peter Tallman, have expressed interest in running the city for approximately seven months until the election is held in early November. The legislation submitted by the city allows the new

mayor to immediately take office instead of having to wait until January, as is customary with the election.

The city charter does not have a line of succession in its rules. It simply gives power to the city council president if they mayor resigns, or is incapacitated in some. After the council president, however, there are no other positions that are designated to be acting mayor in some type of emergency.

The council also does not name a vice president. In situations where the president is unable to attend a meeting, the president appoints a person to carry out his chair duties.

Tallman has been a member of the council for 22 years, winning election for 11 terms.

Murphy is a new city council-

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
WALNUT ST UPPER ROOF  
REPLACEMENT**

bids for furnishing the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m. May 19, 2021** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
cwong@hged.com

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all bids, or to accept any bid that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes "Walnut St Upper Roof Replacement" and address them to:

**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
04/09/2021

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**  
Docket No. HD21P0603EA  
Estate of:

**Tristan Preterotti**  
Date of Death: 11/25/2020  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal  
Adjudication of Intestacy  
and Appointment of  
Personal Representative has  
been filed by **Caelah Akalis**  
of Holyoke, MA requesting  
that the Court enter a formal  
Decree and Order and for such  
other relief as requested in the  
Petition.

The Petitioner requests

that: **Caelah Akalis** of  
Holyoke, MA be appointed as  
Personal Representative(s) of  
said estate to serve **Without  
Surety** on the bond in **super-  
vised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/03/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on 05/03/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION UNDER  
THE MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE  
(MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Barbara  
M Hyland**, First Justice of this  
Court.

Date: April 05, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
04/09/2021

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**  
Docket No. HD20P1250EA  
Estate of: Julius Green

**Date of Death: 04/27/2020  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR  
FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF  
SUCCESSOR PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by: **Pauline A Reynolds** of Belchertown, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that **Pauline A Reynolds** of Belchertown, MA be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without  
Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
cwong@hged.com

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes "Bid for Electric Wire & Cable Annual Contract" and address them to:

**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
04/09/2021

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment Medical Treatment Center & Recreational Dispensary, Cultivation & Manufacturing is scheduled for **Friday, August 20, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.**, at the 20 Hadley Mills Rd., Holyoke, MA 01040. The proposed Marijuana Establishment is anticipated to be located at 20 Hadley Mills, Holyoke, MA, and is potentially seeking licenses for cultivation. Community members and the public are welcome. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions and receive answers from representatives of the proposed

or in the past few years, but has extensive experience with the city, working with the Recreation Commission and Recreation Department. He also has done volunteer work throughout the city.

The acting mayor will have to get busy very quickly, with an immediate eye at compiling and submitting a budget to the city council sometime in May.

The budget must be passed by June 30 in order to be in place for the new fiscal year on July 1.

The acting mayor must also act as chair of the school committee, though that position holds no real authority while the schools remain in receivership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Both councilors will vie for the votes of their colleagues. McGee will

have to hold a special city council meeting as soon as Baker signs the legislation so the new acting mayor may be sworn in and the city can continue conducting its business.

Also among the challenges for the acting mayor and council will be the replacement for the city solicitor, personnel director, and the city treasurer. The treasurer position must be filled and the individual would be able to fulfill the remainder of the elected term vacated by Sandra Smith, who resigned at the end of February.

Whoever is appointed as acting mayor also gets to keep their council seat.

Councilors Rebecca Lisa and Mike Sullivan are running for mayor in November.

**Public Notices**

**Marijuana Establishment.  
8/20/21.**

The Virtual community Outreach Meeting via Zoom can be joined by visiting the following URL. Participants may choose to attend the meeting either online or by telephone. The virtual Community outreach Meeting via Zoom is available using the following link:

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88182345695?pwd=eUZamZNPYWVRSXV6YStmUURCMH0Z09>

**Meeting ID: 881 8234 5695**

**Passcode: 370125**

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York)

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York)

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San

Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

**Meeting ID: 881 8234 5695**

**Passcode: 370125**

**Find your local number:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdDCaw6X3V>

04/09/2021

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD21P0582EA**

**Estate of:**

**Veronica Dolores Bernadis**

**Also known as:**

**Veronica D Bernadis**

**Date of Death: 12/17/2020**

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal  
Adjudication of Intestacy

and Appointment of

Personal Representative has

been filed by **Caelah Akalis**

of Holyoke, MA requesting

that the Court enter a formal

Decree and Order and for such

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(413) 536-9308

cwong@hged.com

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Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.

99 Suffolk St.

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(413) 536-9308

cwong@hged.com

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for the best interest of the

City of Holyoke.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong

Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.



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[WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG](http://WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG)

### HORSES

**HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS** offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, Sales and Leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley (413)532-9753 [www.orionfarm.net](http://www.orionfarm.net)

## REAL ESTATE

**4-5BR 2.5 BATH HOME** for sale in Hampden MA. 2800sq ft APO with partially finished basement, barn w/loft and above ground pool. Many recent updates including new granite countertops and deck. \$440,000. Contact Dave at (413)244-4098

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**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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servants could live on \$5,300 a year.

There was an entire article devoted to lard. It seemed "store Boughten" was pretty "iffy." It was made from refuse fat which "wise men declared unwholesome." It suggested that cottonseed oil be used instead, as it was "primarily fit for frying" and was better, purer and cheaper than lard or butter.

The magazine was very diverse in its material and included instructions on how to make the famous Holyoke lace.

Another series was geared to "Domestic Sanitary Appliances." One piece advised that "Next to ample provision for uncontaminated air for breathing, nothing was more essential to human life as a supply of pure and wholesome Water." It then went on to tell about plumbing systems and how to install them.

Another bit of wisdom said water could be purified by adding two grains of alum to a gallon. That would neither

## TAX SERVICES



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### FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and/or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

### Social media of the first kind.

**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
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**Community newspapers, still as popular as ever.**

## MAGAZINE, from page 1

called "Ten Dollars Enough." It explained that living on ten dollars a week had been done before and could be done again. Remember this was 1886. To make living on ten dollars a week easier for its readers, the magazine advertised a grocery tablet for 50 cents. It was said to be the "most useful article for housekeeping ever invented" and told about such things as salsaratus, rye meal, hominy, bee's wax, blacking, blueing, stove polish, buckwheat, corn meal and lard.

The same article went on to explain readers could eat oysters, liver, knuckle, veal, corned beef, pork, steak and chicken, all for \$6.52 a week. Lobster was selling for 35 cents a pound.

The article pointed out that a New York family of two adults and three children were living comfortably on \$750 a year, and a family of much higher social standing composed of six adults and three

servants could live on \$5,300 a year.

There was an entire article devoted to lard. It seemed "store Boughten" was pretty "iffy." It was made from refuse fat which "wise men declared unwholesome." It suggested that cottonseed oil be used instead, as it was "primarily fit for frying" and was better, purer and cheaper than lard or butter.

The magazine was very diverse in its material and included instructions on how to make the famous Holyoke lace.

Another series was geared to "Domestic Sanitary Appliances." One piece advised that "Next to ample provision for uncontaminated air for breathing, nothing was more essential to human life as a supply of pure and wholesome Water." It then went on to tell about plumbing systems and how to install them.

Another bit of wisdom said water could be purified by adding two grains of alum to a gallon. That would neither

change the taste or the properties.

After a hard day of purifying and plumbing, the ladies still had to deal with meals, and this column would not be complete without a suggested menu for the day. (circa 1886) Are you ready?

Breakfast: fruit, Corn meal mush, fricassee of chicken, baked potatoes, toast and hominy muffins.

Dinner (lunch): macaroni soup, roast venison, current jelly, stuffed tomatoes, mashed potatoes, glazed sweet potatoes, cress salad, lemon souffle and grapes.

Supper (Dinner): broiled smoked salmon, rolls, waffles and cake, baked apples and tea.

The magazine drew subscriptions from all over the country and Europe, and it is still one of the most widely read magazines today.

It is with great pride that we can say that this publication, "dedicated to the interests of the higher life of the household," had its beginnings here.

## HCC, from page 1

ant that someone who has prior knowledge of the cities needs in mind while on the board. Schlegel mentions that carrier planning and job serves are not only what the students want, it's also what the students and the city needs while recovering from the pandemic.

"Placing a Holyoke resident on the Holyoke Community College Board of Trustees is essential in making Holyoke and our community more than pretty lettering on a sign at the entrance to the college," Schlegel said. She and the union are trying to get bakers attention to request that a resident from Holyoke be appointed to the Board of Trustees, and they will continue to advocate for this until a new board member is chosen.

## In The News

# Preparatory classes for expectant parents and families

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Medical Center's Parent Education Department offers a wealth of education and support for expectant parents and families through every stage of pregnancy, childbirth, delivery and beyond.

For safety's sake, due to the coronavirus pandemic, all face-to-face childbirth and parent classes/groups have been suspended in favor of live virtual sessions and online learning.

Among the many preparatory classes offered are:

**Virtual Childbirth Education Class Bundle:** A four-class series taken via WebEx from the comforts of prospective parents' own living room. Series includes stages of labor and delivery, basic comfort techniques, medications, medical interventions and Cesarean birth, basic baby care, and prenatal breastfeeding. The series is held in four, two-hour sessions and includes interaction and questions and answers with a childbirth educator throughout the class. Infant care and

breastfeeding can also be taken as stand-alone classes.

**Online Multiples Childbirth Education:** Using a combination of online education and the opportunity to interact with a parent educator, online multiples is geared to expectant parents in their second trimester of pregnancy who want education that is specific to having twins or triplets. The online portion of the class is taken at home at the participant's own pace. Parents will then be invited to a virtual session via WebEx to have their questions answered by a knowledgeable instructor, who is also a lactation consultant and mother of twins.

**Online Childbirth Education – offered in Spanish or English:** The eight-chapter program, ideal for those expectant parents who enjoy learning on their own, is an interactive, web-based class that uses videos, personal birth stories, animations, activities and games to teach all the essential information parents need to know to prepare for the birth of their child. This class does not provide

face-to-face interaction with a parent educator.

**Basics-Breathing, Massage & Positions for Labor Virtual Class:** A one-session class ideal for those parents who want a more in-depth preparation for the use of advanced comfort and support techniques during labor and delivery to avoid medical interventions if possible.

**Virtual Keeping Baby Safe:** Participants will learn how to keep baby safe with topics such as infant CPR, first aid, choking, poison prevention, baby-proofing the home and car seat safety.

**Baby's Home! Now What?:** This newborn class provides postpartum support for new parents and provides information on newborn behavior in the first few weeks of an infant's life. The class includes feeding cues for breast and bottle feeding, infant sleep patterns, comforting a crying infant, information about returning to work, continued support for breastfeeding moms, pumping techniques and storage of

breast milk.

**Virtual Prenatal Yoga Class:** Pregnant women will learn postures, breathing techniques and meditation to help ease pregnancy aches. The class will prepare your body for delivery and improve your chances for a smoother recovery while creating strength, focus, flexibility and awareness through a gentle practice designed especially for the pregnant woman's needs.

**Virtual Postnatal Yoga Class:** The virtual class provides an opportunity for moms to bond with their babies, strengthen muscles that were affected in pregnancy/labor and stretch all of motherhood's new aches and pains. Babies up to 1-year-old and crawling are welcome to surround mom during the class, which offers breathing techniques to calm the mind and bring energy to the body and strengthening the pelvic floor and abdomen.

For more information and to register for any class, visit [BaystateHealth.org/Parented](http://BaystateHealth.org/Parented).

## DAY BROOK VILLAGE

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Our Independent and Assistance in Living communities are open<sup>†</sup> and operating with full service dining, social activities and transportation.

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<sup>†</sup>Operating safely under current COVID-19 guidelines.



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[www.daybrookvillage.org](http://www.daybrookvillage.org)

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are your Friends.**



CHECK OUT ALL THE

# Turley Publications

[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

## Autism Connections holds 30th annual Autism Conference

REGION – April is Autism Awareness month, and Autism Connections, the Western Massachusetts Autism Center serving families and individuals in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden counties, is hosting its 30th Annual Autism Conference on April 29.

The day-long virtual educational conference brings together hundreds of parents, caregivers, educators, people with autism, self-advocates, professionals, organizations and service providers to build awareness and knowledge, be inspired and make meaningful connections.

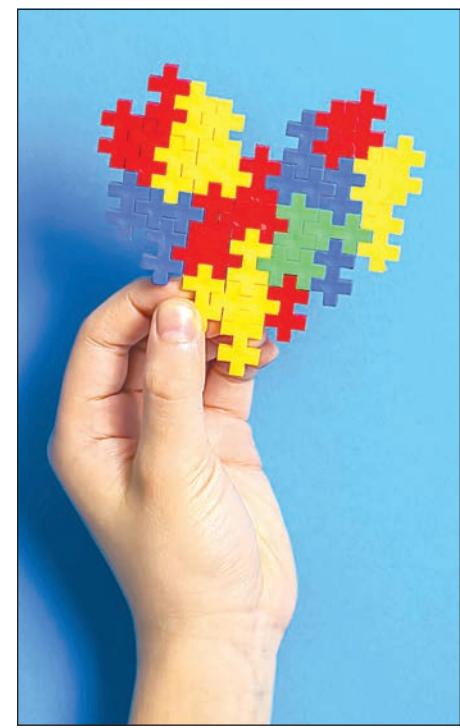
"The conference is virtual this year, but the engagement that people associate with the annual conference will be the same," said Karen Serra, director of Autism Connections.

"We know how busy people's days are right now," Serra said, "we are thrilled to be able to offer all who register access to recordings of the conference until December 2021."

Morning and afternoon breakout sessions led by experts will focus on topics as they relate to autism, including "Boundaries and Relationships," "I Used to Be Bullied for Having Autism – Here's When it Stopped," "Combating Diagnostic Disparities in African Americans," "Individualized College Support for Students in Need of Transition Services" and many more.

Educator, writer, and global advocate Morénike Giwa Onaiwu is the morning keynote speaker, and will also present a breakout session titled, "Forged by Fire: The Intersection of Race, Disability, and Gender."

Stacey Gordon, an American puppeteer who is best known for por-



traying Julia, a four-year-old female Muppet with autism on Sesame Street, is the afternoon keynote speaker. Stacey, who is the mom of a child with autism, will also present a breakout session on "Puppeteering for Parents and Professionals" on connecting with children through puppets.

This year's event is made possible in part thanks to the generosity of Presenting Sponsor Radcliffe is the Reason and Arthur Too! Fight for Autism.

For more information about Autism Connections or the 30th Annual Autism Conference, visit [AutismConnectionsMa.org](http://AutismConnectionsMa.org) or email [autismconnections@pathlightgroup.org](mailto:autismconnections@pathlightgroup.org).

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